

1. O. 6722

Shanghai Municipal Police.

Intelligence Office

Station.

October 31,

1925.

REPORT ON Conversation with No. 50 (Russian Social Revolutionist).

Made by Wm. Con. Cook

Forwarded by

J. H. Givens C. D. I.

Sir,

There are two group of Cossacks at present at Shanghai. Both these groups represent the remnant of the detachment that arrived here on board the Russian steamer belonging to the so called ^{F.L.} Ataman Gleboff. Altogether there were approximately 1000 men landed here in Shanghai under the command of Gleboff. The majority of these Cossacks left some long time ago for Soviet Russia, but the remainder, some 300 men, are now divided; 50 of them recognizing a certain Kozakov and the balance recognize Ataman Gleboff. Those recognizing Kozakov are not armed, whereas Gleboff's men are. -The former are engaged in ordinary labouring work while the latter under Gleboff are paid a monthly allowance and are fed clothed etc. The Gleboffites are quartered at stations on board the Russian military transport "Gidrotank" moored somewhere on the river. The discipline existing among these Gleboffites is strict. The majority of these Cossacks are from Trans Baikal, the others are from Ussuri in the Pre-Martime Province.

Further inquiries are being made. JH

The funds supporting these Gleboffites are supposed to represent the following:-

- (1) Money received by Gleboff from the Japanese for work conducted by these Cossacks in Korea prior to their arrival here.
- (2) From the sale of arms to Chinese.
- (3) From the sale of a Russian steamer or mortgage of same.

It appears that altogether these Cossacks possessed some

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3000 Russian rifles, 3 or 7 machine guns, and 3 or 3" field pieces. The major portion of the above armaments have been surreptitiously sold here. Money was received for the sale of one of the Russian boats, and the mortgage of another.

An estimate of the total expenditure required for the upkeep of these White Russian forces is \$2,000 a year. The ostensible object for retaining these Cossacks here is to defend the rights of the White Russian elements in connection with extraterritoriality, but the real object is political, the intention being to forestall the influence of Soviet Cossacks (anti-Reds) in order to keep the White Russian element alive. It also forms a good graft as a bribe for the Russian population.

The Russian population in Shanghai is estimated at 15,000 persons and the presence of this small detachment of 100 men have been objects of the idea ever since its birth, but the recent action of the Chinese authorities in banning where several Russian traders were taken up on the grounds of being suspected as spies, has increased the feeling of the White Russian element.

At present a Cossack in the Quarantine is a sergeant and his rank of 1st class has been practically a self-appointed.

Lieutenant General N. S. Savaloff is in charge of these Cossacks. He left Shanghai two days ago for Tsingtao and the reason of his departure is considered by many to be in connection with the Red Army's proposed military activities.

It appears that Savaloff is acting agent for Nikolai Merkulooff, (of the Russian Imperial Government at Vladivostok in 1920) who is the chief of the Intelligence Department for

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General Chang Chun Chang, the Tugan of Shantung. General Chang Chun Chang was formerly a Manchurian operating on the Manchurian-Russian border at the time Gen Nikolai Morzhukov was connected with a Russian Steamship Co. operating on the rivers Sungari and Amur. While pursued by the authorities, Chang Chun Chang sought refuge with Morzhukov who aided him and as the general recognized his old confederate by promoting him to the post of chief of the Intelligence Department.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

John Hoar
Gen. Sec.

D. C. I.